MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): It is not practicable to prepare such a statement owing to the enormous amount of labour involved.

Construction of the Neriamangalam bridge.

55. MR. K. P. ABRAHAM (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether tenders for 'Designs and Estimates' for the Neriamangalam bridge have been invited from firms;

(*b*) whether the Engineers in the Travancore Public Works Department are not competent to prepare the designs for the Neriamangalam bridge;

(*c*) whether the Government propose to engage contractors from outside Travancore for the construction of the Neriamangalam bridge; and

(*d*) whether the Government have received tenders for estimates from Travancoreans for the construction of the said bridge?

MR. T. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): (*a*) and (*b*) The answers are in the affirmative.

(*c*) The Chief Engineer's recommendation on the tenders has not yet been received by the Government.

(*d*) The Chief Engineer has received tenders.

MR. K. P. ABRAHAM (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): With regard to the answers to parts (*a*) and (*b*), may I know who is to decide which is the best design for the bridge?

MR. T. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): Government are the final authority.

MR. K. P. ABRAHAM (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): When designs and estimates are together submitted to the Government, have the Government the option to reject either of these and accept the other?

MR. T. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): That is a hypothetical question.

PRESIDENT: No tender at any time need be accepted. Tenders may or may not be accepted wholly or partly. Government may not accept any tender at all. We may choose to take up the design and call for another estimate.

Mr. M. Srinivasa Aiyar, Supervisor, P. W. D.

56. MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Kottarakara* cum *Kunnattur*): Will the Government be pleased to state how long Mr. Srinivasa Aiyar, P. W. D. Supervisor, Punalur, has been in that place?

MR. T. K. MADHAVAN NAYAR (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): Mr. M. Srinivasa Aiyar, P. W. D. Supervisor, has been working in the Punalur Section as Section Officer from the 21st Vrischikam, 1104.

Constitution of the Ayurveda Board.

57. MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the Ayurveda Board provided for in the Budget for 1107 has been constituted; and

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(*b*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the negative, why it has not been constituted?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): (*a*) No.

(*b*) The Government have decided that the question must wait for the present.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): With reference to part (*b*), may I know when the Government decided that the question must wait?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): I have not got the exact date here. I claim notice.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Was it after or before the Budget was passed?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): I cannot say. I think it must have been after, but I cannot say definitely.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Is there any special reason why this decision was arrived at?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): I am not prepared to discuss the reason here with the member.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): I wish to know why Government decided that the matter should wait for the present. It was brought to the notice of the Council and in spite of non-official opposition, provision was made in the Budget. But it has been allowed to be there. I remember the Chief Secretary told me at the time the Budget was discussed that orders would issue shortly?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): I am not in a position to discuss the reason.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): I do not want a discussion here. Government decided that there should be a board and the Chief Secretary told us that an order would issue shortly. So, I wish to know what it was that influenced Government in putting off this matter?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): Government might have had sufficient reason to change their mind.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): That is what I wish to know. It is for me as well to see how far the reasons are sufficient and whether Government had no reason or any reason whatever?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): I have nothing more to say on that point.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Then, I too have nothing more to say.

Existence of a clique of agitators in the State.

58. **MR. A. THANU PILLAI** (*Trivandrum*): With reference to the statement made by Mr. L. A. Bishop in the Legislative Council on the 2nd Dhanu 1106, namely "There is a small clique in the State, composed of not more than a dozen persons, who are agitators to a certain extent. They are disgruntled: they seek power: and they seek power by means of agitation", published at page 193 of Vol. XVIII of the *Council Proceedings*, will the Government be pleased to state:

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